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Organ of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

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SALT LAKE CITY, JAN. 22, 1900.

OPENING OF THE SCHOOLS.

The district schools are to be opened tomorrow, Tuesday, to all children having certificates of vaccination. All others are to be excluded. This applies also to principals, teachers and employees. It will be seen from this that the Board of Education has receded from its original edict, that children must give evidence of "recent successful vaccination." A certificate must be obtained from a "qualified medical practitioner" that they have been vaccinated; it does not seem to matter when, or where or how.

Observe, teachers and children are not required to have a certificate of health. They are not required to show that they have not been exposed to contagion. If they have been at some time or place vaccinated, they may go to school. If they are healthy, robust, free from infection, not liable to contamination anybody, but are unvaccinated, they are to be shut out.

The wisdom, common sense, and lawfulness of this decree cannot fail to be perceived by the dullest mind. Every member of the Board of Education who joined in this brilliant resolution ought to have a leather medal, made from the hide of a calf carrying with it a certificate from a duly qualified medical physician that it had been thoroughly cowpoxed.

As less than half of the number of school children in this city have been vaccinated, it is not probable that the schools will be very much crowded for some time. We presume that a test case will be taken into the courts, so that the authority for this covert attempt at compulsory vaccination may be determined. We have no doubt that a great many parents in this city will prefer keeping their children out of school to having them infected by cowpox virus forced upon them in a tyrannical manner.

The law requires children of school age to attend a public or private school. We would like to see some school officer try to prosecute a parent for not sending an unvaccinated child to school. The law does not require vaccination. It does require education. The whole matter is involved in strife and contention resulting in litigation, all of which would have been needless but for the assumption of despotic power by the Board of Education and the Board of Health. Their course should be kept in mind by the voters and the officers whom the citizens elect to high public stations.

AS TO SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

The proclamation by the Mayor, which was anticipated by many, for the closing of Sunday schools in this city, did not reach the point of signature. The proposition was considered by that gentleman, but it appears he had too much good sense to be persuaded into action entirely unnecessary at present, and which it is somewhat doubtful he had lawful authority to take. Be that as it may, there was no order from him, or from any board assuming the right to issue it, for the closing of the Sunday schools.

Some of those schools, however, were suspended yesterday. Most of the Sunday schools of the Latter-day Saints were held and were well attended. We refer to this matter to call the attention of the ward Sunday school officers and others interested in conducting those schools, to the proper course to pursue in reference to their management. The Sunday School Union of the Church is a properly organized and efficient institution. It is presided over by men thoroughly capable and endowed with divine authority. They are the responsible directors of the Sunday schools of the Church.

In this State of Zion there is a superintendent who, with his assistants, has charge of the Sunday schools, and the local officers in the respective wards should look to their presiding officers for advice in relation to these schools. The Bishops of the different wards also have the right to counsel and advise in such matters, and if they do not know what to do in an emergency, they can apply to the Presidency of the Stake, who have access to the First Presidency and also to the general officers of the Sunday School Union.

Sometimes good Latter-day Saints forget the order which has been established in the Church, and run to sources of information for advice that have no authority whatever in Church affairs. They also occasionally pass by the local officers appointed for their benefit to some higher authority, thus ignoring those who have been placed near to them for their benefit. Every officer in the Church should be recognized and honored in his calling. They are all essential to the harmony and perfection of the body.

If it becomes necessary to make any change in the conduct of the Sunday schools, instructions will issue from the proper Sunday school authorities. They are not secular institutions. They are ecclesiastical in their constitution, teaching and influence. They are under the direction of the presiding authorities of

the Church, and the Sunday School Union is a Church organization pure and simple. It is a most excellent body, and the schools under its direction are not surpassed in any part of the world. They ought not to be suspended in their operations unless it should become absolutely necessary. When this necessity arises, the word will come, no doubt, from those who have the right to advise such action.

A PRESENT DUTY.

We have received copies of the Hereford (Eng.) Times, containing excellent communications from Elder J. L. McMurrin, now laboring in the British mission, and Elder Robert J. Johnson of Salt Lake City. They are both well written and right to the point. They are full replies to attacks made upon the Church by a city missionary in Hereford by the name of G. Chandler, who has been rehearsing old anti-Mormon stories and repeating the blood-curdling tales invented by William Jarman of unsavory fame.

Mr. Johnson was formerly a respected resident of Hereford, where he was in charge of a number of workmen who, on his leaving for Utah, held a meeting and presented him with a substantial testimonial of their good feelings and good wishes. His letter to the Times is so strong and unanswerable that Mr. Chandler waives it aside with the intimation that Mr. Johnson never wrote it.

A few more of our friends in Utah would write occasionally to the newspapers of their native towns, and to friends who would be glad to hear from them, they could do much towards clearing away the fogs and mists of error and defending the people of this State from the falsehoods which are being disseminated by the clergy and the press. Too many of our people forget "the rock from whence they were hewn" and neglect to keep even their own relatives informed as to their whereabouts and condition, and to testify as to the religion they have embraced and its effects upon their spiritual and temporal condition.

At this juncture all persons who can do so should avail themselves of all the opportunities that are open for the dissemination of correct information in regard to Utah and to the Church of which they are members. All eyes are turned in this direction and now is the time to present something to the gaze of the world which will aid in the spread and triumph of the truth. Write!

THE NICARAGUA CANAL.

There seems to be an overwhelming sentiment in Congress in favor of the construction of the Nicaragua canal. The Hepburn bill, which the House committee on Interstate and foreign commerce has agreed on, provides for a canal built and controlled entirely by the government. The appropriation proposed is \$140,000,000, which is supposed to be ample for its completion and fortification.

There is some apprehension that the project is displeasing to some European nations, and that Great Britain will insist on the provisions of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty being respected. Such considerations, however, should not be permitted to cause delay in an undertaking demanded by the interests of the nation.

The probability is that the Nicaragua canal would have to be regarded as being in a status similar to that of the Suez canal. That waterway is practically in the hands of England, as the Nicaragua route would be under the control of this country. The Suez canal is open to all nations on equal terms in peace and war, but that does not mean that a nation at war with Great Britain would have the use of the canal on the same terms as England, or on any terms at all. Nor would the Clayton-Bulwer treaty force this country to hold the Nicaragua canal open to the enemies of the United States. It is understood that both countries are in favor of such modifications of the treaty as to render it no barrier to the completion of the great work.

It is the demand of the entire commercial world that a shorter route to the Pacific be found than round the Cape. The United States would derive the greatest benefit from the canal, but the entire Europe is interested and will no doubt insist that the proposed canal be treated as part of the high seas.

LYNCHINGS.

The Governor of Mississippi, Longino, in his message to the legislature of the State takes a decided stand against lynch law. This speaks well for the Governor, and perhaps also for the people of Mississippi, the probability being that the message expresses the sentiment of no small portion of the population.

The Governor points out that lynchings are growing in frequency, and he very properly draws the conclusion that unless they are checked, the State will lapse into a state of barbarism. Stringent measures, he thinks, are needed in order to arouse public opinion to a realization of the situation.

He recommends that the family of victims of lynching be given the right to recover heavy damages against the county in which the lynching occurred, and the right of recovery should be predicated alone upon the fact that the lynching was done in the county where the recovery is sought. He further suggests a law providing that the office of sheriff or constable shall become vacant whenever a prisoner is taken from such officer's custody.

The effort of the Governor to arouse the public on this question is most creditable, whether the legislature adopts the recommendation or not. The probability is that, if taxpayers knew that they were liable to pay heavy damages for the pleasure of roasting black sinners over a slow fire, and for collecting charred human bones as souvenirs, they would perhaps look for some humane amusement. The mobs would frequently be suppressed, when taxpayers are liable for their excesses.

While the Governor of Mississippi is trying to reach the evil by legislation, Senator Cullom is presenting a petition to Congress for federal interference. Those for whom the senator speaks ask Congress to establish federal jurisdiction

of all lynchings. It will probably be argued that Congress has no constitutional power to do this, or to treat lynchings different from murder cases, but it is nevertheless an encouraging sign of the times, that such a crying evil is commending to attract general attention. The way to combat the evil will be found, when it is seen to be such, and there should be no difficulty in recognizing lynchings as the genuine relic of barbarism.

TO REACH THE POLE.

A new plan for reaching the North Pole has been proposed by Arthur C. Jackson, president of the Alaska Geographical society. It has been presented to the international geographical congress in Berlin, as well as to local organizations, and met with considerable favor.

The plan, as outlined in the Alaska and Northwest Quarterly, seems to be built on the experiments and experiences of Dr. Nansen. Mr. Jackson thinks the Norwegian explorer demonstrated that the ice drifts across the Pole, and that if he had had any means of retracting his steps to the ship, instead of being compelled to make the journey to Franz Josef land, he would have succeeded.

The idea of Mr. Jackson is to have three ships, or more, provisioned for several years, enter the Arctic by way of Bering strait and make fast in the ice somewhere on the 15th meridian. The vessels would be placed at about 30 miles apart, with stations, containing supplies, between them. Three or more vessels, he thinks, increase the probability of success. During the progress of drift some vessel would come nearer the Pole than others, and from this a dash could be made to the goal.

The unknown regions of the frozen north continue to have a fascinating influence on adventurous minds. Some day the problem of reaching the Pole will be solved, and then probably it will become clear that the actual benefit of the triumph is far from equal to the property and lives sacrificed.

THE PLAGUE.

The bubonic plague, which is said to be spreading both in Hawaii and the Philippines, and which may, in due time, find its way into some American coast cities, came from China to India, and from there proceeded westward. It was, for a time, arrested at Alexandria, Egypt, but then it appeared simultaneously in the southern parts of Russia and in Portugal. It seems to be spreading eastward, as well as westward, from its first source.

The plague flourishes among the unclean portion of the population of Asiatic cities. It is described as resembling typhus fever. It comes suddenly, and headache, thirst, hemorrhage, stupor, coma, and death follow in rapid succession, often in from twenty-four to forty-eight hours. Authorities explain that the plague destroys the thin walls which confine the blood throughout the body, thus causing hemorrhage and death.

It is believed to be essentially a fifth disease of the hot climate. It does not appear to attack cleanly and well-nourished persons, even in tropical cities, and this is true, more or less, of most contagious diseases. Cleanliness and a natural mode of living go a long way to render people immune. Two hundred years ago the plague devastated hundreds of thousands of lives in Europe. It came at a time when cholera, smallpox, and every other epidemic found the conditions favorable to an immense harvest of lives. The unsanitary conditions invited death. Since then the cities have been cleaned up, and epidemics have consequently become less frequent and less fatal than formerly. But the ravages of the plague in other places should be a reminder to all of the importance of cleanly and temperate habits, in order that the destroyer may find no ally in the human system itself.

UTAH'S IRON ORE.

The Boston Transcript considers the discovery of iron ore of Utah a more important event to this country than many of those that now occupy public attention. The paper comments as follows:

"The statement published that very large and rich deposits of iron ore have been discovered in southwestern Utah. If this is the fact, if the deposits are of the great extent represented, and if the ore is of good working quality, the dispatch that brought the news was more important than many which afford exciting reading. The Pacific coast has long suffered from the necessity of importing its steel and iron from the East. This has cramped the manufacturing development of California and other States that look out on the Pacific. Of course there are large iron works now in operation, but their business is necessarily limited to what their patrons must have with the least possible delay. It still pays a San Francisco shipowner to have a steamer built in the East and sent around the Horn. The government has had some notable ships built on the Pacific coast, but herein its course has been dictated by policy rather than profit. If, however, the Californians can get their ore so close at hand as southwestern Utah, there is no reason why they should not become competitive manufacturers. California's gold output is now an indifferent second to that of Colorado, but if she can handle iron ore cheaply she may find more than compensation for the diminishing production of the precious metal. Through iron to gold has become a way to riches familiar in more than one country. The discovery of iron ore in Utah is all the more important to California at this time because it will relieve her of a condition that has handicapped her merchants and manufacturers in their competition for a place in the markets of the East. She will have an undeniable lead in the race for the trade of the Philippines."

This is no hungry day for Mr. Bryan, judging by the number of offers for dinner that awaited him on his arrival in New York.

Gen. Buller says he thinks he is making substantial progress. It is certain that to be salutary in its effect on the British nation it must be decidedly substantial.

News from South Africa is kept from the British public, till the censor has "cooked" it. As the Boers are informed of events as they go on, it is presumed they are taking their news raw.

Criminal carelessness in furnishing

defective timbers for a Los Angeles street tunnel is given as the cause of the fatalities there on Sunday. The matter should not be allowed to rest at that.

The Catholics are after the non-church people in New York. The field appears to be large, though there is no indication yet as to the measure of its fruitfulness in response to evangelistic efforts.

Mexico's seismic shaking up has resulted in loss of life and considerable destruction to property, and further disturbances are predicted. The topographical conditions in that part of the continent show that it is not a stranger to violent upheavals.

How lonesome the few members of the Montana legislature that were not bought must feel! Judged by the testimony being gathered in the Clark case at Washington, about 90 per cent of Montana's legislators were on the market.

It is suggestive to note that the big pro-Boer mass meeting in Washington on Sunday evening would not have been possible a few weeks ago, as the interest on the side of the Boers had not then been worked up by senators and representatives.

Conductor W. W. Patch, who saved General Sherman and staff from capture during the Civil War, is dead. His act at that time was one of distinguished heroism that should keep his name forever prominent as among the gallant defenders of the Union.

If the New York Herald's poll on the Nicaraguan canal states the case fairly, the Clayton-Bulwer treaty is a dead letter. The congressional attitude seems to give force to the opinion that the treaty has been abrogated by a secret arrangement between this country and Great Britain.

The Yaqui Indian movement for independence appears to have suffered a forcible collapse. In a battle with Mexicans, the Indians have been defeated, with a loss of 200 killed and 500 prisoners. There is no prospect of Yaqui success when the Mexicans can beat them so badly as that.

In the very brief sketch of the late Orson Pratt published with his portrait in the "News" of Saturday evening, it was stated that he entered Salt Lake Valley three days in advance of the main body of the Pioneers, in company with President Woodruff. It was Erastus Snow who was with the Apostle Orson Pratt instead of President Woodruff.

Tuesday is to be a day of humiliation and prayer in Kentucky, according to the appointment of a number of Frankfort clergymen. The humiliating feature has been noticeable for some time to outside observers of Kentucky's blood-feuds, and if the day of prayer will prove potent in checking the shameful business, its institution will deserve strong commendation.

The Utah Press Association, at its regular meeting on Saturday, in this city, elected its officers for the ensuing year. The selection made was excellent. The association is composed chiefly of gentlemen who are called "country editors." Many of them are men of ability whose literary talents qualify them for metropolitan journalism. They are, however, more useful, perhaps, to the people in the various parts of this State than if they were engaged on the big dailies. They are performing a salutary work. The papers which they edit and publish are a public necessity. Their sphere of usefulness may not be as wide as some, but it is of the greatest importance. These gentlemen, though differing in politics, in religion and in their views on some public questions, are able to unite fraternally for the common welfare. This speaks well for their tolerance, liberality and broadmindedness. They do well to thus combine for the purpose of exercising greater influence than they could if they kept entirely separate and apart. The Deseret News assures the Utah Press Association that it has the sympathy and support of this paper. We wish its members continued harmony and complete success.

KENTUCKY TRAGEDY.

San Francisco Chronicle.

The shocking tragedy which resulted in the killing of three prominent men and the wounding of two others in Frankfort, Ky., on Tuesday, is directly traceable to the failure of the proper authorities to do justice at an earlier stage in the feud between the principals. The latter were officers during the war with Spain of the same regiment, one its colonel, the other a lieutenant. The latter made himself amenable to charges by his superior, was tried by court-martial, found guilty and recommended to be discharged, and the general in command of the Fourth corps, to which the regiment was attached, approved the findings. Then influence was invoked at Washington with success. The disgraced officer remained with his regiment.

Kansas City Star.

The affair happened because of a public sentiment which encouraged and to a way demanded it. Both parties had indulged in shooting affrays before their difficulty with each other. It was generally observed throughout Kentucky that they were both "dead game." When they met and fought at a public table in a restaurant and one of them was wounded, neither was arrested nor was any legal or judicial notice taken of the action. All this was in encouragement of the bloody murders of yesterday, and of an indefinite number of murders to come. Kentucky assumes the responsibility.

Milwaukee Wisconsin.

Kentucky has long earned the name of a dark and bloody ground on account of the murders springing out of persons; and to that of Colorado, in that respect it has acquired, even a darker name than Texas, and the effort of the Goebelites to carry the State election by fraud, intimidation, false counting and the exclusion of legal Republican voters, is accentuating its infamy. The shooting affray in Frankfort yesterday, in the lobby of the Capitol hotel, was really as barbarous an outbreak as the execution of the Apache Indians. The result is, two worthy and innocent persons are killed, one of the parties to the affray was shot dead and the other has a shattered arm and is now in prison.

THE PLAGUE.

San Francisco Chronicle.

Believing, as we are compelled to, that some time in the future the disease is likely to get past all the cordons

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Z. C. M. I.

T. G. WEBBER, Supt.

A CARD TO THE PUBLIC.

DON'T BE VACCINATED.

This is to notify the general public that an "ANTI-COMPULSORY VACCINATION LEAGUE" has been organized in this city, and able counsel has been retained to protect our rights as citizens, and at the proper time to invoke the law against those who presume to violate it by refusing admission into the public schools all unvaccinated children.

The effort to make vaccination compulsory in Utah is without justification in law, and we, as officers of said league, hereby call upon all patriotic citizens who oppose the "compulsory" phase to aid us in securing the necessary means to contest this matter in the courts. Payments may be made to any authorized agent, or to B. H. Schettler, banker, etc., Main street, opposite Z. C. M. I., call and sign your names, and in every case be sure to get a receipt for amount paid.

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B. H. SCHETTLER, Treasurer.
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